

27. The device according to claim 16, further comprising a microprocessor for processing measurements obtained by said vessel characterization element.

28. The device according to claim 16, further comprising an analyte concentration determination reagent test strip.

29. The device according to claim 28, wherein said test strip is an electrochemical test strip.

30. The device according to claim 28, wherein said test strip is a colorimetric test strip.

31. The device according to claim 16, further comprising a means for automatically determining the concentration of at least one analyte in said physiological sample.

32. The device according to claim 16, further comprising at least one fluid enhancing element.

33. The device according to claim 16, further comprising at least one flow characterization element.

34. The device according to claim 33, wherein said at least one flow characterization element comprises a pulse characterization element.

35. The device according to claim 33, wherein said at least one flow characterization element comprises a hemoglobin characterization element.

36. A device for determining a suitable site for sampling physiological fluid, said device comprising:

(a) at least one flow characterization element for determining the general concentration of vasculature of said site; and

(b) at least one sample type characterization element for determining whether said site comprises arterial or venous vasculature.

37. The device according to claim 36, wherein said at least one of said flow characterization element and said sample type characterization element comprises at least one light source and at least one detector.

38. The device according to claim 36, wherein said at least one flow characterization element comprises a temperature characterization element.

39. The device according to claim 36, wherein said at least one flow characterization element comprises a red blood cell characterization element.

40. The device according to claim 36, wherein said at least one sample type characterization element comprises a pulse characterization element.

41. The device according to claim 36, wherein said at least one sample type characterization element comprises a hemoglobin characterization element.

42. The device according to claim 36, further comprising a microprocessor for processing measurements obtained by said at least one flow characterization element and at least one sample type characterization element.

43. The device according to claim 36, further comprising an analyte concentration determination reagent test strip.

44. The device according to claim 43, wherein said test strip is an electrochemical test strip.

45. The device according to claim 43, wherein said test strip is a colorimetric test strip.

46. The device according to claim 36, further comprising a means for automatically determining the concentration of at least one analyte in said physiological sample.

47. The device according to claim 36, further comprising at least one skin-piercing element.

48. The device according to claim 36, further comprising at least one fluid enhancing element.

49. A method for determining a suitable site for sampling physiological fluid, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) characterizing the flow of said potentially suitable site; and

(c) determining whether said potentially suitable site is suitable based on said flow characterization.

50. The method according to claim 49, wherein said step of characterizing the flow of said potentially suitable site comprises characterizing the temperature of said potentially suitable site.

51. The method according to claim 49, wherein said step of characterizing the flow of said potentially suitable site comprises determining the red blood cell character of said potentially suitable site.

52. The method according to claim 51, wherein said step of determining the red blood cell character of said site comprises irradiating said physiologically suitable site with light and detecting the light absorbed by said physiologically suitable site.

53. The method according to claim 51, wherein said step of determining the red blood cell character of said site comprises characterizing the red blood cell flux of said site.

54. The method according to claim 49, wherein said step of characterizing the flow of said potentially suitable site comprises employing Doppler flowmetry techniques.